

WILLINGDON ISLAND—JURISDICTION OF COURTS OVER.

406. Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon (Narakkal): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Cochin State Courts have got civil and criminal jurisdiction over the Willingdon Island;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state whether the Courts in Ernakulam or those in Cochin exercise such jurisdiction;

(c) has any notification been issued by the Government vesting the jurisdiction over the Willingdon Island in any of the courts above referred to?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja (Advocate-General): (a) Yes.

(b) The courts in Cochin exercise original jurisdiction over the Willingdon Island.

(c) No such notification has been issued, as it is unnecessary, since Willingdon Island forms part of the Rameswaram Village which falls under the territorial jurisdiction of the courts in Cochin.

407. Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar (Nemmara): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) which is the Civil Court which has jurisdiction over the Willingdon Island in the first instance;

(b) which is the Criminal Court which has jurisdiction over the Willingdon Island?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja (Advocate-General): (a) The hon'ble member's attention is drawn to the answer to sub-division (b) of question No. 406.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (Nellayi): May I know whether any land tax is collected from the Willingdon Island?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (Diwan Peishkar): Not at the present moment.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (Nellayi): Why not?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (Diwan Peishkar): It has not been surveyed. Orders have been issued for the survey.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (Trichur-South): It is stated in the answer that the courts in Cochin exercise original jurisdiction. May I know whether there is any appellate jurisdiction?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja (Advocate-General): The courts exercising appellate jurisdiction in Cochin will be exercising the appellate jurisdiction.